

TITLE: COIN AND BILL VIDEO GAME TERMINAL SYSTEM

This is a continuation-in-part of U.S. application
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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5 The present invention relates to video game
terminal systems, and in particular, to video game terminal
systems where a number of terminals are linked and share
information with a remote computer.

10 Coin and bill operated video game terminals
provide a popular source of entertainment are commonly
provided in bars and restaurants.

15 The sophistication of the video games continues
to increase and the processing capability and speed of the
terminal has also increased. Most video game terminals now
use a computer processor similar to pentium processors and
include extensive memory storage arrangements for audio and
graphical files used by the video games. Some video game
20 terminals have as many as 60 (+) different games which can
be played, some of which are very memory intensive, whereas
other games such as simple card games, require much less
memory.

25 The terminals provide additional revenue which is
normally divided between the location owner and a company
which is providing or leasing the terminal to the
particular location. Some video game terminals have been
linked with a central computer for operating certain games
30 in a tournament mode. The game results of the particular
tournament game are provided to a central computer and the
results are accessible at each terminal. It is common in
such tournaments to have a local leading score as well as
the overall network leading scores.

35 Prizes have been suggested with respect to
rewarding the individual leaders of the tournament but in
many jurisdictions, such an arrangement is illegal. The